

House Resolution 581

By: Representative Sims of the 169th

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the United States Congress to support the chicken growers of Georgia; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the poultry industry is a vital component of this state's economy, especially
4 Pilgrim's Pride growers in Douglas, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, Douglas Pilgrim's Pride employs more than 1,200 Georgians and is rated sixth
6 out of 160 processing plants in grower efficiency; and

7 WHEREAS, Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, the nation's largest poultry producer, lost \$1 billion
8 dollars last year due to an industry-wide oversupply of chicken and weak consumer demand,
9 due in part from the worsening recession, culminating in it filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy
10 and plans to close the Douglas plant; and

11 WHEREAS, closure of the Georgia plant will have a substantial impact on this state's
12 economy, not only on those people employed by Pilgrim's Pride, from the domino effect it
13 will have on industries that support the poultry growing business; and

14 WHEREAS, closure of the Georgia plant will hinder economic development, destroy jobs,
15 and devastate the citizens of this state; and

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the members of this body request and strongly encourage the United States Congress to
18 consider the use of stimulus funds to assist poultry growers in Georgia; the president and
19 chief executive officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation to reconsider closing the Douglas plant
20 or to fairly compensate growers; and the Bankruptcy Court to sell the Douglas, Georgia,
21 plant.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
23 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia congressional
24 delegation, the president and chief executive officer of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, and
25 Judge Michael Lynn.